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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DENTIST PLEADS GUILTY TO EXCHANGING PRESCRIPTIONS FOR SEX**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that Dr. DeWitt Webster, Jr., age 74, of Hyattsville, Maryland pled guilty today to two counts of an indictment in which he was charged with the unlawful distribution of Percocet.

As part of the plea agreement, Dr. Webster acknowledged that beginning in September, 2001 and continuing to his arrest in May, 2003, he wrote prescriptions for female patients for controlled substances including Percocet, Oxycodone, Vicodin, Hydrocodone and Alprazolam without a legitimate medical purpose. He further admitted that he conducted no physical examination or dental treatment, maintained no patient file or record, and solicited sexual favors in return for the unlawful prescriptions. He was arrested in May, 2003 after an undercover Maryland State policewoman, posing as a Percocet addict, received prescriptions for Percocet on two occasions.

As part of the plea agreement, Dr. Webster agreed to surrender any license he may hold to

practice dentistry or to write prescriptions. He faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment and a potential fine of \$1,000,000. Dr. Webster is scheduled to be sentenced on March 25, 2004 at 12:45.

The case was investigated by the Maryland State Police, and the Diversion Unit of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington Field Office. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Donna C. Sanger.